

What we claimed is:

1. A method for controlling utilization of an account having associated therewith an issuer, a primary transaction cardholder and a secondary transaction cardholder, the method comprising the steps of:
 - a) associating with the secondary transaction cardholder at least one code, wherein the code identifies a condition for account use; and
 - b) authorizing utilization of the account wherein the utilization of the account is in accordance with the condition set by the code.
2. The method of claim 1 wherein in step a) the code is a merchant category code.
3. The method of claim 2 wherein in step b) the secondary transaction cardholder is authorized to complete a transaction with a merchant when the merchant is associated with the code by the issuer.
4. The method of claim 4 wherein in step b) the secondary transaction cardholder is authorized to access information pertaining only to transactions made using a transaction card issued to the secondary transaction cardholder.
5. The method of claim 1 wherein in step a) the code is selected from a database provided to the primary transaction cardholder by the issuer.
6. The method of claim 1 wherein the code is a spending limit.